Central Intelligence Agency



DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

1 August 1983

China:	Reorganization	of	Security	Organs	25 X 1

Summary

At last month's National People's Congress Premier Zhao Ziyang made public the creation of a new security organ, the Ministry of State Security. The new ministry, headed by security professional Ling Yun, is part of a package of reforms intended to tighten control over security and intelligence bureaucracies, professionalize the security apparatus, and crack down on lax internal security procedures and foreign espionage. The moves were prompted by increasing Chinese concern over crime, espionage, numerous recent hijack attempts, and several 25X1 defections. We helieve the reorganization is also intended to increase Deng Xiaoping's control over the security apparatus and prevent it from assuming too much influence over policy.

The reorganizaton apparently leaves China with four major intelligence and security bodies -- the Ministry of State Security, the Ministry of Public Security, the People's Armed Police (a revival of a pre-Cultural Revolution unit), and the Discipline Inspection Committee of the party. The Ministry of Justice will continue to oversee the courts and assume control of the prison sustem.

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The Institutional Lineup

The	Mir	nistry	of	State	Secur	ity	was	formed	from	parts	of	the
Ministry	of	Public	: S	ecurity	and	the	Inve	estigat	ion D	epartme	ent	of

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This memorandum was prepared by the Domestic Policy Branch of the China Division of the Office of East Asian Analysis, Directorate of Intelligence. Questions and comments are welcome and may be directed to the Chief, Domestic Policy Branch

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the party. Its publicly announced responsibilities are to combat espionage and subversion by foreign powers, prevent sabotage, and deal with internal threats to security.	25X1
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included a broad range of security and intelligence duties, have been cut back. The MPS is now in charge of combatting generali.e., nonpoliticalcrime and maintaining public order. It is headed by Liu Fuzhi, who like Ling Yun is a longtime security	25 X 1
cadre. The Ministry of Justice will supervise the court system and also will take over the prison system, formerly overseen by	
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The People's Armed Police Force is composed of personnel from four units: the internal security troops of the People's Liberation Army, some border defense troops, municipal firefighters, and some regular PLA garrison troops. Though the	
Chinese press does not allude to it, an organization with the same name and similar functions existed in the 1950s and 1960s, until its duties and many of its personnel were assigned to the PLA. The People's Armed Police will now handle guard duty at foreign embassies, government buildings and sites such as the flag in Tiananmen Square, and probably party headquarters. It will also be used to control smuggling, patrol coasts and bordersresponsibilities shared with the militaryfight fires, deal with civil disturbances, and solve crimes. Its charter also includes prevention of espionage and sabotage, a standard part of	
the litary in official Chinese statements on security. We	
believe its anti-espionage duties will be confined to guard duty at sensitive installations. According to statements in the Chinese media, it reports to the Ministry of Public Security,	
although its units seem to have ties to the regional PLA command structures as well.	25X1
structures as werr.	20/(1
The party's Discipline Inspection Committee is not usually numbered among security organization by the Chinese, but some of its responsibilities fall into that area. It has authority to investigate and punish corruption, abuse of office, and political misconduct by party cadre. It has been heavily involved in the crackdown on economic crimes and also in the campaign against	
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Reasons for the Reorganization	25X1

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In our opinion, Beijing also intends the reorganize prevent the new security organs from gaining too much over policy. Before and during the Cultural Revolution officials engaged in internal security work	influence n, some top
were able to composition of the dossiers on leaders which they used as weapons in dispersional infighting. By dividing security and intellipowers among several ministries, the leadership has incomposed to the dose of the d	utes and igence
The revival of the People's Armed Police also ower to Cultural Revolution events. After the Army assumed security responsibilites, local units of the PLA frequent intervened in the fighting between factions of that errors	s something internal ently

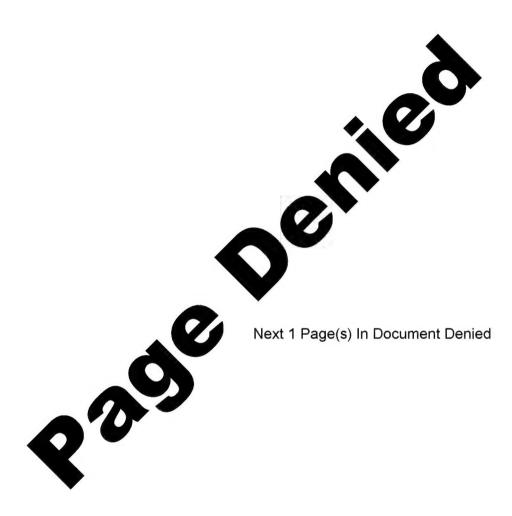
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ultimately the Army was used to bring the Red Guards' activities	
to a halt. We believe the new force is intended to prevent the	
PLA from playing such a role by removing its internal security	
functions. This new force also advances streamlining of the PLA,	
a major reform goal, by reducing the number of people on active	
military duty.	25X1
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Tighter Control	
The division of responsibilities and appointment of new	
leadership will probably improve both the performance and	
political reliability of the security apparatus. We believe it	
will have less impact on China's intelligence-gathering	
activities than on internal securitywhich in our view is of	
much greater concern to the leadership. Certainly the	
reorganization measures focused, as far as we can tell. on	
internal security, not on foreign intelligence.	25X1
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The People's Armed Police, however, may be a less effective	
force than the leadership hopes. The PAP was created essentially	
by separating PLA security personnel from the Army and	0.51
redesignating them as PAP. they are	25 X 1
not happy with their change of status. In addition they have	.*
been assigned some extremely unpopular taskssuch as guarding	
rich peasants, farmers who prosper under the new system. Recruiting and morale are likely to be headaches for the	
leadership, but they probably regard these problems a reasonable	
tradeoff for moving toward their other goals.	25X1
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The Ministry of State Security, though powerful, does not	
seem to us to be a "Chinese KGB" despite the similarity in	
name. It lacks the KGB's sweeping authority in matters of	
internal security and does not command a large body of troops as	
the Soviet organization does.	25X1
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The restructuring and the accompanying campaign stressing	25X1
security concerns are likely to have a chilling effect	
domestically.	
Contacts	25X1
between Chinese and foreigners, already tight, will be even more closely watched. We expect that Chinese officials will be more	
guarded in their conversations with foreigners, official and	
unofficial. It will probably be increasingly difficult to gather	
certain information for business and trade purposes from Chinese	
fearful of giving away too much economic information and being	
charged under China's vague and inclusive espionage laws.	25X1



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